

From: Michael Chao
To: Bob Gould; Carolyn Bailey
Date: Friday - February 13, 2009 8:12 AM
Subject: precalc F/M and next week

Good morning,

More than usual with this one...

I have attached the handout that I will be using today and Monday in Precalc, on exponential modeling. It emphasizes the use of base e . I have also attached Carolyn's previous handout, "summary of all WP." It's a different take on the same topic, because it lists a whole variety of different formulas for different purposes. I think we need to discuss which ones we expect the students to know, and which would be given if tested. So I have NOT put in copies for everyone, because I think you need to choose which way you are going with this topic.

There's a second issue related to the Ch 11 test. Currently it's scheduled for next Th/F (after the first lesson on Ch 10 on T/W). But I know Bob has hardly seen his 10th graders all week because of the 10th grade extended HR on Tues and the assembly yesterday, on top of the kids traveling. Also, Career Day is next Friday, and classes are only 50 minutes each.

Finally, the Gizmos website has some interesting things on conics, which I will probably try to work in at some point in Ch 10.

Whew!

Happy Friday,

Michael

From: Bob Gould
To: Michael Chao, Carolyn Bailey
Date: Sunday - January 4, 2009 11:55 AM
Subject: Re: PC grades

Hi Michael and Carolyn---Yep, classes resume tomorrow and just looking at our PC grades in your email looks rather foreign to me. Would it be harder and more foreign after a three-week break? I would guess yes!

Anyway, happiest of New Years to you both!

I don't have my exams here at home right now so I can't look them over, but yes, I definitely recall them struggling with lack of time on Part 2 and so I would like to hand them back tomorrow (me on Tuesday) to go over with them, but tell them we will be looking closely at the possibility of a curve of part 2 but we will not be able to tell them their final "curved exam grade" until we have met. Could we meet right after school Monday to discuss the curve?

Interesting about Isaac and Zach on you flight....Anson and Tammy had been planning to be on that flight too, coming back from AZ-----so we never looked into who would be on the flight just in case A and T were not there. By the way, she is in "stable" condition according to Anson, but my suspicion is what this really means is she is only gradually losing strength. I will visit them soon.

See you tomorrow. Take it slow and easy!!!!!!

Bob

>>> Michael Chao 01/04/09 10:13 AM >>>
Hi Carolyn and Bob,

Happy New Year -- hope you and your families enjoyed the holidays! We had a great time in SF, but really felt the difference only having 2 weeks this year, and are having some trouble getting our heads around going back to school tomorrow. We ended up on the same flight back as Zach and Isaac Hing, but didn't realize it until the end. I wish we had thought of checking return flights before the break, too.

Well, with regrets, I'm going to dive right into Precalc stuff, having noted with dismay that tomorrow is a 1A so I have a Precalc class first thing. I assume we're going to give back the exams, and finish Half-Angle

identities in 7-4, right?

As for exams, I think I already sent my uncurved grades, but here they are again, just for reference.

A = 5
B = 7
C = 11
D = 5
F = 3

Combined, this gives us:

A = 8
B = 21
C = 18
D = 16
F = 8

This gives us almost exactly 1/3 D's and F's, which seems high to me, and clearly we had a lot of students struggle with time. For my students, Part 2 was considerably worse (~10%) than Part 1, so one thing I would consider is just curving Part 2, either with the square root curve, or something else.

If I redo my grades, leaving Part 1 raw, and applying the square root to Part 2, then I get:

A = 5 (no change)
B = 17
C = 4
D = 3
F = 2

I don't know if this brings too many C's to B's -- what do you think?

Cheers and see you tomorrow,

Michael

>>> Carolyn Bailey 12/19/08 10:34 AM >>>

A = 1 JinHo park
B = 8
C = 3
D = 10
F = 4 (59, 59 54, 52)

>>> Bob Gould 12/19/2008 9:46 AM >>>

75% ave
a's 2 abe yoon 98% and max yoon 92%
b's 6
c's 4
d 1 Bryn 69%
f 1 (48% Dillon)

From: Bob Gould
To: Michael Chao
CC: Carolyn Bailey
Date: Monday - February 9, 2009 9:45 AM
Subject: Re: Precalc M/T

I think we can/should quiz next week....jon's request was pretty straight-forward and firm too. Bob

>>> Michael Chao 2/9/2009 8:38 AM >>>

Hi,

Here's the attachment for 11.5. (The calendar says finish 11.4 and do 11.5.) Copies are at the copy center; I'll pick up and distribute before break.

Also, are we still quizzing on W/Th, despite Jon's email? The timing is certainly good for the quiz, except that the test is scheduled for next Th/F, so the students who are out would be writing both nearly simultaneously.

Thanks,

Michael